CUSTOMER NO.: 24498 Serial No. 09/649,975

Final Office Action dated: 03/05/08

Response dated: 06/04/08

PATENT RCA 88,391A

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1- 19 are pending; claims 1-5 and 11-15 are rejected; and claims 6-10 are indicated allowable. Claims 17 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the respective base claims and intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowable claims.

Claims 1, 5, and 11 are amended; and claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 17, and 19 are cancelled without prejudice and disclaimers. Claim 5 is amended to correct a typographical error.

Applicants disagree that claims 1-5, 11-16, and 18 are unpatentable over US 4,989,081 ("Miyagawa") in view of US 5,978,546 ("Abe") at least for the following reason. The status of the VTR 10 displayed in the TV 6 disclosed in Miyagawa is limited to "ON" or "OFF." See, for example, FIGs. 6A, 6B, 9B, 12B, 14A, and 14B. However, the operating modes of the reproduction apparatus as recited in claim 1 do not include "ON" and "OFF" mode. The operating modes are different control modes, e.g., RECORD, PLAY, REWIND, STOP, SHUTTLE, SLOW MOTION, and TRICK_PLAY, when the reproduction apparatus is operating. See, for example, page 4, lines 7-9, and 25 of the specification. Thus, neither Miyagawa nor Abe discloses or suggests that an operating mode indicator is combined with a decoded video signal, as required by claim 1. Thus, claim 1 and dependent claims are patentable over both references. Similarly, claim 11 and dependent claims are patentable over both references.

However, in the interest of advancing the prosecution, applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate features from claims 2, 3, and 19, and amended claim 11 to incorporate features from claims 12, 13, and 17. Since claims 19 and 17 are indicated allowable, applicants submit that amended claims 1 and 11 are also allowable.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are

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respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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